

Voice of Reason on Montana Fish and Wildlife Issues

To the Senate FWP Committee:

RE: SB-260-AN ACT REVISING THE RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF HUNTING LICENSES AND PERMITS THAT MAY BE ISSUED TO NONRESIDENTS FOR LARGE PREDATORS

POSITION: Montana Sportsmen's Alliance hereby goes on record **ADAMANTLY OPPOSING** this bill based on the following reasons:

- Currently nonresidents are not limited to a specific percentage of tags in any unlimited permit districts for wolves and bears and are only limited on mountain lions in those districts that do have a permit system.
- In the event that Grizzlies are de-listed and a hunting season is established, this bill would allocate up to 35% of those tags to nonresidents. These tags would become one of the most coveted in the lower 48 states.
- This bill is about providing additional income for outfitters from nonresidents at the cost of lost opportunity of the resident hunter who live with these large predators year round.
- The current nonresident percentage of 10% in limited entry areas has proven to be a fair level that provides reasonable opportunity for the nonresident while protecting the resident sportsmen.

Once again we would like to state our **OPPOSITION** for SB 260.

Montana Sportsmen Alliance Leadership Group

Vito Quatraro-Bozeman 580-1130
Joe Perry-Brady 627-2369
John Borgreen-Great Falls 453-4273
Sam Milodragovich-Butte 490-2224
Robert Wood-Hamilton 531-5043
JW Westman-Laurel 633-2415

www.montanasportsmenalliance.com www.pac.montanasportsmenalliance.com P.O. Box 1324 | Hamilton, Montana 59840